TO THE RIGHT HONORABLE The *LORDS* and *COMMONS* Aſſembled in PARLIAMENT.

The Humble Petition and Remonſtrance of *Edmund Scotten*, *James Whinnell*, *Luke Voyce*, *Joſeph Cole*, *Richard Porſonby*, *John Write*, and *John Taylour*, additionall Committees for Sequeſtration of the Eſtates of Papiſts, and other Delinquents for the North-part of *Cambridgeſhire* and the Iſle of *Ely*.

AS ALSO

A true Coppy of a Printed Paper ſet upon Poſts in the Market places of *Ely*, *Wiſbbeech*, *&c.* to diſgrace your Petitioners.

With Reaſons and Anſwers thereunto, plainely ſhewing, that that Printed-Paper cannot poſſibly be that Noble Earles Act, whoſe name it beareth, but ſome other evill and malicious perſons who at once have abuſed the Parliament, his Lordſhip, and wronged your Petitioners.

AND LIKEVVISE

Two Orders made by the Honourable, the Committees of *Lords* and *Commons* for *Sequeſtration*.

Printed, the 11. of May 1644.

To the *Right Honorable*, the *Lords* and *Commons* Aſſembled in *Parliament*.

The Humble *Petition* and *Remonſtrance* of

Edmund Scotton, *James Whinnell*, *Luke Voyce*, *Joſeph Cole*, *Richard Ponſonby*, *John Write*, and *John Taylour*, additionall Committees for *Sequeſtration* of the Eſtates of *Papiſts*, and other *Delinquents* for the North-part of *Cambridge-ſhire*, and the Iſle of *Ely*,

Humbly Sheweth,

THat your Petitioners, notwithſtanding ſome of them are ſuch as have ſuffered much in the publique Cauſe before this Parliament began, and ſince have timely and freely lent more men, money, horſe, and plate upon the Propoſitions, then any in the Country about them, and have otherwayes ſhewed their zeale and love to the Parliaments Cauſe above their abilities, and ſince they were added to the Committee for Sequeſtration, although without their knowledge or ſeeking, have faithfully executed that buſineſſe according as they were required by the Parliament, to the hazarding of their lives, and incurring the hatred of Delinquents, Malignants, and all ſuch as adhere unto them, and have beene formerly moleſted, wronged, and impriſoned, by the Committee ſitting at *Cambridge* for their faithfull ſervice herein, but upon complaint to the Lords and Commons in Parliament for Sequeſtration, they have found Juſtice without partialitie, although their Adverſaries were great, as may appeare by theſe Orders and Declarations following: but ſuch are the reſtleſſe ſpirits of their Adverſaries, that your Petitioners are now again openly diſgraced,

condemned, and cenſured by Printed papers ſet upon Poſts in the Market-places where they dwell, before ever they came to triall; and although their names be not particularly therein mentioned, yet thoſe that be their enemies report with confidence, that they are the men, which amongſt others are thereby meant and intended, and are ſtopped for proceeding any further in the matter of Sequeſtration; but that which moſt troubles your Petitioners is, that ſuch Printed-papers, ſhould have the name of ſo Eminent and Religious a Peere of this Kingdome to it, as *Mancheſter*: but that this ſhould be that Noble Lords Act, and your Petitioners meant therein, they cannot beleeve for many Reaſons here following, but doe rather thinke their old exaſperated enemies have joyned themſelves with ſome evill affected perſons, who for their owne ends have abuſed the Parliament, his Lordſhip, and wronged your Petitioners;

Your Petitioners Humble Suite to this Honourable Aſſembly, is, that as they have ventured their poore eſtates, lives, and all for the Cauſe maintained by this Parliament, from whom under God they hope to be relieved, and from whom they confidently expect Juſtice without partiality, as formerly they have done, to their ever laſting praiſe be it ſpoken, that both this Printed-paper, and your Petitioners anſwer and reaſons may be examined by this Parliament: and if your Petitioners be found men deſerving ſuch publike diſgrace, they may ſuffer without favour: But in caſe this Honorable Houſe, and that Honorable Earle are both abuſed, and your Petitioners wronged by the Pen-men of this Printed-paper, they may be found out and puniſhed,

And your Petitioners,

as in Dutie bound, ſhall pray, &c.

A true Copie of the printed Paper ſet upon poſts in the Market place at *Elie*, *Wisbeech*, &c.

GENTLEMEN,

WHereas by divers Ordinances of Parliment, power is given to me for the more effectuall execution of the work of Sequeſtration; And eſpecially by an Ordinance intituled, [*An Ordinance of the Lords and Commons aſſembled in Parliament, to enable the Right Honourable,* EDWARD, *Earl of* Mancheſter, *to put in execution all former Ordinances for ſequeſtring Delinquents Eſtates*] by vertue of which Ordinance, power is given me, of putting in others into the power and place of ſuch as I finde unfit for the ſaid work of Sequeſtration, and inveſt them in the power given by the ſaid Ordinances, to ſuch as are expreſſed therein: And whereas divers good forms and orders are preſcibed, and inſtructions given by the ſaid Ordinances for the effectuall and faithfull execution of the ſaid works of ſequeſtration: which divers perſons of mean and low condition (not nominated in any the ſaid Ordinances) called Added-ſequeſtrators, taking ſolely upon them the work of Sequeſtration, wilfully miſtaking, or through their ignorance and illiterateneſſe, not underſtanding the ſaid Ordinances, do divide themſelves into three and three in a company, taking ſo much lands and goods to themſelves to be managed, acting in a hidden, private, and myſterious way, by vertue of which, the value of the ſaid ſequeſtred parcells are onely known to the company of three; no publick Records or Regeſters kept, no Inventories made (according to the inſtructions given in the foreſaid Ordinances, their accounts either not given up, (by which I might diſcover my third part aſsigned) or with much difficulty; and then onely given up in groſſe, without any particulers expreſsed; (an unfit way for any, much more for ſuch mean Agents) not without ſuſpition of much fraud and deceit to the Common-wealth; which doth appear to me not onely by the form and manner, but alſo by the effect and fruit of their Actions (conſidering the Barnes were full of corn, the grounds ſtock'd, and much wood and houſhold-ſtuffe being ſold) being ſo ſmall, as may juſtly render them ſuſpected, and that theſe fruitfull grounds will hereafter be utterly fruitleſſe, to the loſſe of the State in generall, or the little fruit imbeziled, to the great hinderance of the preſent Service; to adde to theſe, the continuall complaints made to me againſt their proceedings: I doe therefore for preſent redreſſe herein, by vertue of the power given me by the foreſaid Ordinances, nominate and appoint, and do require and deſire you, preſently upon receit here-

queſtration, and receive all ſuch rents and profits as are to be received, at this common time of payment or hereafter; and let out ſuch lands as are unlet, or untenanted, or ſuch as you ſhall think fit to let again, having been lately let, or pretended to be let by the ſaid Added-Sequeſtratours: Provided you make the moſt fair and profitable proffer of them, to ſuch of the neereſt kinred and allies to ſuch delinquents, as were the owners thereof, not being delinquents, as are willing to take them. And that there be two publike books or regeſters to be kept, one by your Committee, the other by the Treaſurer or Receiver appointed of all Rents, receits, accounts, inventories of goods, demiſes of lands, bargains, and other acts or deeds concerning the ſaid work of Sequeſtration: and that you allow ſuch Officers as ſhall be appointed, ſuch fees as to you ſhall ſeem convenient, not exceeding the fees expreſſed by Ordinance of Parliament, and that all acquittances and other deeds be under the hand of the ſaid Treaſurer or Chair-man; and that you further obſerve ſuch inſtructions as are preſcribed in the ſaid Ordinances. And I doe for the effectuall execution hereof, and the ſaid Ordinances of Parliament, put a ſtop to the ſaid Added-ſequeſtratours proceedings, and that they meddle not with receiving any rents of any tenants, or letting any lands, but onely with threſhing out and ſelling ſuch ſequeſtred corn and grain as is yet unſold; and plowing and ſowing ſuch arable ground as is yet untenanted, and to be ſown with Barley, Peaſe, or Oats, ſetting downe and accounting their charges therein, to ſuch as are appointed to take their accounts, by my ſelf or your Committee. And my further direction is, that you ſpeedily ſend forth your Warrants to the ſeverall and reſpective Towns where there are any ſequeſtered Eſtates, that the all and ſingular the reſpective Tenants of any Sequeſtred lands, pay in their rents at the reſpective times appointed, to your Committee; and that the Warrants be forthwith made and directed to the Conſtable and Officer of every Pariſh, and trained Bands, to ſerve the ſame upon the ſeverall and reſpective tenants; and likewiſe to all Colonells, Captaines, Trained Bands, and ſouldiers, to be aiding and aſsiſting to you (in caſe there be need) in proſecution of theſe my derections, for the execution of the ſaid Ordinances: and that they be not aiding or aſsiſting any of the ſaid Added-ſequeſtratours further then I have expreſſed their worke to extend, which is not to receiving of rents, letting of lands, &c. And if they ſhall refuſe to doe their duty therein, that then your Committee appoint ſuch Agents to perform it, as to you ſhall ſeem convenient, according as you are directed by the Ordinance for explanation.

Dated *Aprill* the 9. 1644.

I require that the ſaid Sequeſtratours give in their Accounts immediatly to the ſaid Committee.

MANCHESTER.

Reaſons to move your Petitioners to thinke, that the printed paper in the former Pages, cannot be that Noble Lords Act whoſe Name it beares, but ſome malicious, ignorant, and ill-affected perſons, who have abuſed the Parliament, his Lordſhip, and wrong'd your Petitioners.

FOR;

1. It is done in ſuch an abſur'd manner, that your Petitioners know not what to name it, but a Printed Paper, unleſſe they ſhould call it a ſcandalous Libell: for if you would call it a printed Letter, as it may ſeem to be by the firſt words (*Gentlemen*) then it wants a Superſcription, that we might know what Gentlemen, whether of *Eſſex*, *Suſſex*, *Kent* or *Norfolke*, *&c.*

2. If you would call it a Speech, or an Oration, or a Remonſtrance, or Intentions, or Inſtructions, or an Ordinance (for the Penners of it dare croſſe the Ordinances of Parliament) then we ſhould have expected a Title to that purpoſe, but there is no ſuch thing to it.

3. It inveighs againſt, and puts a ſtop to added-ſequeſtrators, but what their Names be, or where they dwell, whether in *Eſſex*, *Suſſex*, *Hartford*, *Cambridge*, *Huntengton*, *Norfolke*, *Lincolneſhire*, whether in all theſe Countreyes, or in none of them, it tells you not.

4. The Inditors of this printed Paper, cannot make an enterance, but it muſt begin with a ——. So that the foundation or firſt words are falſe and deceitfull, and the building anſwerable: for that Ordinance therein ſpecified, intituled A*n Ordinance of the Lords and Commons aſſembled in Parliament, to enable the Right Honourable*, EDWARD, *Earl of* Mancheſter, *to put in execution all former Ordinances for Sequeſtring Delinquents Eſtates*,

nor

nor any other Ordinance hath any ſuch word, as to put out ſuch as his Lordſhip judgeth unfit but onely to put in others, where any of the former are found remiſſe or negligent.

5. This cannot be that Noble Lords Act, and meant your Petitioners, in ſaying, Added-Sequeſtrators, take upon them ſolely the worke of Sequeſtration, for your Petitioners doe not ſo, for they have blamed others for their negligence, that were before appointed to doe it. And becauſe they would not, your Petitioners in obedience to the Parliament, were conſtrained to Act without them, now to blame your Petitioners, for this is to blame them for putting the Ordinances of Parliament in execution, for had not they of themſelves ſet to work, the work muſt ſtill have lien undone, as it did before.

6. This cannot be that Noble Lords Act, if your Petitioners be ment therein, for then it is falſe in divers reſpects, which can in no wiſe ſuit with that Noble Lords diſpoſition, who is rather of *Davids* ſpirit, who was ſo bent againſt lyers, that betimes, he would not ſuffer a lyer to be about him;

For,

1. It ſaith, Divers perſons of mean and low condition called added Sequeſtrators; But your Petitioners are not ſo called, neither by the Order of Parliament, nor by his Lordſhips Commiſsion under his hand and ſeale.

2. It ſaith, wilfully miſtaking, or through their Ignorance or illiterateneſſe, not underſtanding the ſaid Ordinances, but this is not true concerning your Petitioners, for they can ſhew it otherwayes, by an Order and Declaration of the Committee of Lords and Commons for ſequeſtration, bearing date the 22 of *December* laſt, That Mr.

Mr. *James Thomſon* and others of the Committee ſitting at *Cambridge*, were guilty of wilfull miſtaking or ignorance in the Ordinances for Sequeſtration, but your Petitioners were commended and approved of, as by the following Orders, may at large appeare.

3. This printed paper ſaith, They divide themſelves three and three in a company, which if they did, the Ordinances of Parliament would beare them out, but your Petitioners doe not ſo, for at the firſt ſeizure of Delinquents Eſtates, they road altogether, but ſince, they divide themſelves (to ſave charges) two and two in a company, according to the directions of Parliament; but here is to be noted, not onely the falſeneſſe of the penners of this printed paper, but alſo their ignorance of the Ordinances for Sequeſtration.

4. It ſaith, They act in a hidden, private and miſterious way, by vertue of which, the value of the ſaid ſequeſtred parcells are onely known to the company of three, but this is not true concerning your Petitioners, for they doe all things openly, and all know what is done. And all others may know if they will.

5. This printed paper is falſe, if it meane your Petitioners, for it charges them, That their Accounts are either not given up, or with much difficulty, and then onely given up in groſſe, without any particulars expreſſed: But it is not true, for their Accounts were given up willingly, and in particular, as may appeare by the Accounts.

7. This printed paper chargeth your Petitioners with bringing in little money, and it is true, there are not many thouſand pounds brought in, but is it not long of themſelves: oh the extreame malice and injuſtice of the framers of this printed paper! they uſe meanes to get moſt of the Delinquents in the Country protected, and have ſent parties of Horſe for your Petitioners, and have im-

priſoned ſome of them, becauſe they would not ſpare thoſe that the contrivers of this printed paper would have ſpared, cauſing your Petitioners to make many journeys to vindicate themſelves, and to ſpend ſome money more then elſe they need, and then they complaine againſt them, that they bring in ſo little.

8. This cannot be that Noble Earles act, for your Petitioners twice petitioned his Lordſhip, to get off this buſineſſe of Sequeſtration, becauſe they found ſo many lets in their way, that they could not doe that good ſervice for the Parliament as they deſired: His Lordſhip told them, He had heard that they were honeſt men, and ſuch he took them to bee, and in your Petitioners hearing, blamed thoſe that had moleſted them, but incouraged your Petitioners. And at a ſecond time, his Lordſhip told them, He could not grant their Petition to take them off, unleſſe they were negligent. But in this printed paper, they are not charged with negligence, neither is there any mention of their Petitions to get off, an evident argument, that this printed paper cannot be that Noble Lords Act.

9. This printed paper ſets forth that his Lordſhip is troubled with continuall complaints, your Petitioners beleeve it to be true; But is it not long of the framers of this printed paper? can they be more fitly compared to any then thoſe wicked men about the King, that ſo often abuſe his Majeſtie, and would make the world beleeve, that he is the Authour of all thoſe cruell, falſe, and unjuſt things that come forth in printed papers in his Name, they cry up his Prerogative and unlimmeted power for their own ends, and then they complaine how his Majeſtie is troubled and dealt withall: So theſe for their own ends, firſt granted protection themſelves, and ſince indeavour to perſwade his Lordſhip, that ſuch as they de-

ſire

ſire to have protected, are not Delinquents, or if they have been ſo, they now ſhew good affection to the Parliament, and that they added Sequeſtrators, ſeize upon their Eſtates out of malice; And that his Lordſhip ought not to ſuffer ſuch doings in the Aſſociated Counties, ſo that his Lordſhip can have no reſt for them; whereas theſe men, did they not wilfully miſtake, or were they not ignorant of the Ordinances of Parliament, or worſe, they might free his Lordſhip of all this trouble, and tell him, that if the Committees and the parties grieved, could not agree, then it did only belong to the Committee of Lords and Commons to heare and determine the buſineſſe.

10. This cannot be that Noble Lords Act, for certainly his Lordſhip Honours the Parliament, who have ſo much honoured and intruſted his Lordſhip: But the penners of this Printed paper, abuſe the Parliament in divers reſpects, for theſe take to themſelves a power above the Parliament, and bouldly croſſe the Ordinances of Parliamament;

For,

1. The Parliament gives power to the Earle to put others in, where any were found remiſſe and negligent, but theſe put a ſtop to, ſuch as were diligent, and put in their roomes, ſuch as were remiſſe and negligent.

2. Theſe publiquely diſgrace and ſtop thoſe whom the Parliament have choſen upon matured deliberation upon ſecond thoughts, and ſuch as upon triall and experience they have commended, as may appeare by their Order and Declaration of the 22. of *December* laſt, (before receited) by ſetting up Printed papers upon poſts in the Market places where they dwell, exclaiming againſt

them for taking upon them ſolely the worke of Sequeſtration for wilfully miſtaking, or through ignorance, or illiterateneſſe, not underſtanding the Ordinances of Parliament, men of meane and low condition, not without much ſuſpition of fraud and deceit, and of imbezelling that little that is left, and therefore judged unfit, and ſtopped in their proceedings, and all this before ever they came to anſwere for themſelves, a courſe not onely abuſive to the Parliament, but alſo a very unjuſt act, and therefore cannot be that Noble Lords.

3. The Parliament is abuſed and croſſed in expectation for preſent money, for this printed paper comes out at ſuch a ſeaſon, that Tenants are required to pay their rents firſt one way, then they are forbidden to pay them to the added Sequeſtrators, and then after, they muſt pay them another way, ſo that the poore Tenants know not what to doe, and chooſe rather to ſuffer their goods to be diſtrained; which are not ſo eaſily, nor readily turned into money.

4. The Parliament is wronged, and abuſed by this printed paper, for it gives power to ſome Gentlemen to let out ſuch lands againe, as the added Sequeſtrators have let alreadie: by which meanes, all the power that the Parliament had enabled the added Committee with, for the letting of Delinquents lands is utterly made voide; And then who will meddle with them hereafter, that when men have beſtowed coſt upon them, thinking to injoy them according to their bargaines, they ſhall now be deceived: and therefore this cannot be that Noble Lords Act.

5. Theſe abuſe and undervalue the wiſdome of the Parliament, and therefore in this printed paper they ſay, provided you make the moſt faire & profitable proffer of them to ſuch of the neereſt kindred and allies to ſuch Delinquents

linquents as were the owners thereof, not being Delinquents, as are willing to take them: But by this clauſe amongſt others, you may perceive this is none of his Lordſhips act, but ſome others, that are neere a kin to ſome Delinquents.

Now if you ſhould a little examine the wiſedome of theſe men that think themſelves wiſer then the Parliament, their groſſe ignorance will heere, as in their other proceedings, appeare, for ſuppoſe the lands lie at *Dover*, the neereſt kindred and allies at *Barwick*, I muſt goe ſeek them there, to make them a faire proffer, and when I come to *Barwick*, I heare they are at *VVeſtcheſter*, then I muſt goe thither after them; the application is eaſie.

Thus the juditious and impartiall Reader may ſee how theſe malicious men, that have digged a pit for others, wil by the Juſtice of this Parliament, fall therein themſelves: and in going about to accuſe men that are innocent for their own baſe ends: have at once diſcovered their owne pride, falſhood, malice and wilfull miſtaking, or ignorance, thoſe very crimes they have laboured under-hand, and in the darke, to lay upon others.

Laſtly, in caſe there be any ſuch added Sequeſtrators, that deſerve to be ſo cenſured, your Petitioners goe not about to defend them, But deſire that ſuch onely may ſuffer that have offended, for it was *Hammans* crueltie and injuſtice to deſtroy all the Jewes, becauſe he thought *Mordecai* had offended. But your Petitioners certainly expect from the juſtice of this ever honoured Parliament, that as you have promiſed to keep from indempnitie, and to ſave harmleſſe all thoſe that ſhall put in execution thoſe juſt commands, which they are by the Ordinanances of Parliament required to doe, and as they have hitherto found (yea even ſince this printed paper came forth, as may appeare by the following Order, dated the

firſt of this preſent *May*) which Order, with the other formerly mentioned, your Petitioners thankfully acknowledge, and confidently conclude, they ſhall not ſuffer ſuch publike diſgrace, except there be cauſe.

The 22. of *December* 1623.

At the *Committee* of *Lords* and *Commons* for the *Sequeſtration* of *Papiſts* and *Delinquents* ESTATES.

Upon hearing the complaint of Edmund Scotten, Luke Voyce, James Whinnell, Joſeph Cole, John Write, John Taylour, *and* Richard Ponſonby, *additionall Committees for the County of* Cambridge, *and Iſle of* Ely, *for that they have beene wronged, moleſted, and hindred in executing the Ordinances of Parliament for Sequeſtration of Delinquents Eſtates, by Sir* William Rowe, *Mr.* James Thomſon, *and ſome other Gentlemen formerly named in the Ordinance for Sequeſtration, who in favour of ſome of their brothers and friends, ſent out warrants and parties of horſe, to attach & bring before them the bodies of ſome of the ſaid added Committee, aledging an Ordinance of Parl. for their ſo doing: But beeing demanded by this Committee of Lords and Commons by what Ordinance they did the ſame, they could not produce any ſuch, nor juſtifie their proceedings therein. This Committee of Lords and Commons doe declare that the ſaid Sir* William Rowe, *Mr.* James Thomſon,

and

and others, whoſe names are to the ſaid warrants, neither had, nor have any power to ſend for the ſaid added Committee for any thing done in the ſaid buſineſſe of Sequeſtrations, being all joynt Committees equally truſted and authoriſed therein by the Parliament, and therefore they have given juſt cauſe of cenſure for their proceedings aforeſaid. But this Committee being informed of their good Service done to the Parliament other wayes, and to invite them to a more due and carefull performance thereof hereafter, have thought fit, to paſſe by this offence; and doe further declare, that the ſaid added Committee have done good and faithfull ſervice to the Parliament, and ought to be incouraged therein, and not to be taken off the buſineſſe, nor hindred by any warrants of diſcharges from the ſaid Conmittee, or any other perſon: and in caſe any thinke themſelves wronged, they are to appeale to the Committee *of* Lords *and* Commons, *who onely have power to doe them Juſtice, according to the Ordinance of Parliament in that behalfe.*

Jo. VVylde.

May

May the first, 1644.

At the Committee of *Lords* and *Commons* for Sequeſtration of *Papiſts* and *Delinquents* Eſtates.

ORdered and Declared by this Committee of Lords and Commons. That the Governour of the Iſle of Ely, *and other the Parliament forces there, ought to be ayding and aſsiſting to Mr.* VVhinnell, *and other the Additionall Sequeſtrators there, in execution of the Ordinance for Sequeſtration as cauſe ſhall require.*

JUN 14 1949
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